

## TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

### APPENDIX B.

# Definitions of Subject Characteristics

#### **Activity**

Persons age 16 and over were asked to classify themselves by their main activity, i.e., working full or part time, a homemaker, in the armed forces, going to school, or retired.

#### **Air trip**

Any trip in which the type of transportation used to cover most of the miles on that trip was either by commercial airplane or a personal or corporate airplane.

#### **Business trip**

Any trip where the main purpose of the trip was given as business, combined business and pleasure, or convention.

#### **Census region and division**

Regions and divisions of the United States as defined by the Bureau of the Census. There are four regions which are subdivided into nine divisions. A detailed explanation is included in appendix a.

#### **Destination of trip**

The place reported by the respondent as the destination of the trip. If more than one place was visited on the same trip, the place which was the farthest point from the origin was considered the destination of the trip.

#### **Duration of the trip**

The number of nights spent away from home on a trip and includes nights spent at the destination, nights spent en route and nights spent on side trips. It is possible for a trip not to involve an overnight stay from home; a traveler could take a trip of 100 miles or more and return on the same day.

#### **Educational attainment**

The highest grade of school completed as of the date of the first interview determines the educational category of the traveler or household head.

#### **Family**

The family includes the householder and all relatives who are currently members of the household.

#### **Family income**

The total combined income for the previous 12 months of the householder and all persons related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption who were living in the household as



of the date of the first interview. Family income includes income from all sources, such as wages and salaries, net income from own business or own farm, social security, pensions, dividends, interest, rent and any other money income. The income of household members not related to the householder is not included in family income.

#### Household

The basic sampling and reporting unit for collecting travel and other information in the survey. A household consists of all persons who occupy a housing unit such as a house, apartment, or rooms that form separate living quarters.

#### Hispanic origin

The ethnic origin of the person was classified into 'Hispanic' or 'Not Hispanic.' Persons in the survey were asked to report their origin or descent by selecting the appropriate group from a list of ethnic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin include Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or some other Hispanic origin.

#### Household composition

The household was placed into one of several categories depending on the relationship of household members to each other and the presence or absence of children.

#### Household income

The total combined income for the previous 12 months of the householder and all persons related or unrelated to the householder who were living in the household as of the date of the first interview. Household income includes income from all sources, such as wages and salaries, net income from own business or own farm, social security, pensions, dividends, interest, rent and any other money income.

#### Household type

Each household was classified according to the number of household members and their relationship to each other. Household types include family households and non-family households. Family households include married-couple households, female householders, and male householders with and without children in selected age groups. Non-family households include male and female householders living alone or not living alone.

#### Lodging

Information on the types of lodging used by the travelers was collected in the survey and categorized into one of 16 different categories. Information on types of lodgings was

gathered for each trip by the destination in which the nights were spent.

#### Main purpose of trip

The respondent was asked to indicate the main reason motivating the travel and without which the trip would not have been made. Trip purposes were classified according to one of 16 different categories. The main reason for the trip as reported by the respondent was assigned to each household member who went on the trip.

*Business trip*—Any trip where the purpose of the trip is given as business, combined business with pleasure, or convention, conference or seminar.

*Pleasure trip*—Any trip where the purpose of the trip is given as visiting friends or relatives, rest or relaxation, sightseeing, outdoor recreation, entertainment, or shopping.

*Leisure trip*—Any trip where the purpose of the trip is given as rest or relaxation, sightseeing, outdoor recreation, entertainment, or shopping.

*Personal business trip*—Any trip where the purpose of the trip is given as school-related activity or personal or family business including weddings and funerals.

#### Nights away from home

The number of nights spent away from home on one trip, including nights spent at the destination, on stops to and from the destination and on side trips away from the destination. Nights away from home are broken into categories including nights at the destination, nights at stops and side trips, and nights en route.

#### Personal use vehicle trip

Any trip in which the main type of transportation used to cover most of the miles on that trip was auto, pickup truck, van, other truck, rental car, truck or van, recreational vehicle, or motorcycle.

#### Person-miles

An estimate of the aggregate distances traveled by all persons who took a trip and is based on the estimated transportation network miles traveled on the trip.

#### Person-nights

The number of nights spent by each person on a trip. For example, if two persons took a trip that involved five nights away from home, a total of 10 person-nights would be counted for that trip.

**Pleasure trip**

Any trip where the purpose of the trip is given as to visit friends or relatives, rest or relaxation, school activities, sightseeing, entertainment, outdoor recreation, or shopping.

**Principal means of transportation**

Each trip was classified according to the means of transportation used for most of the distance from the origin to the destination. Information on means of travel was reported for each trip in one of 18 different categories. Respondents were asked to report separately the major type of transportation used for going and for returning on the trip. If a different means was used for going and returning, the major means of transportation was the mode used on the going trip.

*Personal use vehicle trip*—Any trip in which the principal means of transportation was car, pickup truck, or van, other truck, rental car, truck or van, recreational vehicle or motor home, or motorcycle or moped.

*Airplane trip*—Any trip in which the principal means of transportation was commercial airplane or corporate or personal airplane.

*Bus trip*—Any trip in which the principal means of transportation was intercity bus, charter or tour bus, or school bus.

**Race**

The respondent was asked to report the race among the categories provided with which he or she and other household members most closely identifies.

**Respondent**

The person who reported the information about the trip. Survey procedures specified that persons 15 years old or older be interviewed personally about any trips they took during the reference period. Household trips taken by more than one household member were reported by the first member interviewed who went on the trip. Trips taken by household members under 15 years of age were reported by a knowledgeable adult household member. Procedures were established to ensure that a household trip taken by more than one household member was reported only once with an indication of each of the household members on the trip.

**Round trip distance**

The round trip distance is based on the estimated transportation network miles traveled from the residence of the household at the time of the trip to the destination and back. Miles are calculated separately from origin to destination and destination to origin and added together to allow for differences in routes traveled each way.

*Person miles*—An estimate of the aggregate distances traveled by all persons who took a trip based on the route miles traveled on the trip. For example, if three persons took a trip that involved 220 round trip miles, the travel would be counted as 660 person miles.

*Vehicle miles*—An estimate of the aggregate distances traveled by travelers in all personal use vehicles based on the highway route miles traveled on the trip.

**Travel party size**

The travel party was categorized into one of three groups depending on whether household and/or non-household members were on the trip.

1. Travel Party—the total number of household and non-household members on the trip.
2. Household Travel Party—the total number of household members on the trip.
3. Non-Household Travel Party—the total number of non-household members on the trip.

**Travel party type**

Members of the household who traveled together were categorized into one of 8 categories describing the number of household members on the trip and their relationship to each other.

**Trip**

A trip is defined as 'each time a person goes to a place at least 100 miles away from home and returns.' Respondents were asked to report trips of 75 miles or more as a means of reducing possible failure in reporting trips of 100 miles or more due to a misconception by the respondent of the actual miles traveled. Trips subsequently calculated to be less than 100 miles were excluded from the estimates. A household trip refers to a trip in which one or more members of a household traveled together. A person trip refers to a trip taken by an individual. For example, if three persons from the same household go together on a trip, the trip is counted as one household trip and three person trips. If persons goes alone on two trips, the trips are counted as two household trips and two person trips. The following types of trips were excluded from the 1995 survey:

1. Trips taken as a member of a CREW for an airplane, train or ship;
2. Trips taken while working as a bus driver or truck driver; and
3. Trips taken in military vehicles by members of the military on active duty.

*Household trip*—A household trip refers to a trip in which one or more members of a household traveled together.

*Person trip*—A person trip refers to a trip taken by an individual. For example, if three persons from the same household go together on a trip, the trip is counted as one household trip and three person trips.

**Vacation trip**

Vacation is considered to be an occasion when trips are taken, but is not considered to be a purpose of travel for this survey. Respondents were asked whether or not the specific trip taken was considered as a vacation trip. Additionally they were asked the main purpose of all trips reported regardless of whether the trips were vacation trips.

**Vehicles**

The number and type of vehicles owned or available for use by the household.

**Weekend trip**

Each trip was classified as a weekend trip or as not a weekend trip. A weekend trip is a trip of one to five nights including a Friday and/or Saturday night stay. Travelers who stay one or two nights away including a Friday or Saturday night are defined as regular weekend travelers. Those who stay three to five nights away including a Friday and/or Saturday night stay are defined as long weekend travelers.